

**Employment Learning and Skills and Community Policy and
Performance Board
Business Planning 2014 – 17**

The Green/Low Carbon Economy

Emerging Priorities

- 1.0** Work with the LEP to develop and deliver the EU Investment Plan for the Liverpool City Region.
- 2.0** Work together with the Liverpool Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to develop a Halton Local Sustainable Energy Action Plan

1.0 The Green / Low carbon Economy

1.1 Context

The Liverpool City Region has set out its ambition to transform itself into a low carbon economy in which future economic growth, the delivery of which remains of vital importance, is decoupled from the consumption of fossil fuels and their inevitable carbon CO₂ emissions.

The energy sector is critical to this goal and the LCR Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) provides a vision and programme for the City Region to co-ordinate its energy sector ambitions, advance projects and bring greater resilience to its energy networks. Implementation has the potential to generate significant investment, economic growth and create new jobs, as well as delivering substantial social and environmental benefits.

Economic and business opportunities are arising at a significant pace from the radical changes that need to be made to technology, methods of production and forms of consumption to become a low carbon economy. The challenge for businesses and economies, including Liverpool City Region, is in being ready to capture and realise these opportunities. The Low Carbon Economy for Liverpool City Region focuses on four key areas:-

- energy
- networks
- transport
- buildings.

These areas show the greatest growth potential for Liverpool City Region and relate to existing strengths and expertise. The Energy and Environmental Technologies and Services sector (EETS) are companies who supply goods and services that have an application that is used to enhance the environment. The transition to a low carbon economy will generate significant opportunity both in the EETS sector and more widely in construction, fabrication, installation and maintenance associated with changes in the ways that energy is generated, distributed, used and conserved.

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1.2 Emerging Priorities

One of the portfolios for the European Programme is the Blue/Green Economy, which focuses on developing significant growth and value by exploiting the commercial opportunities for low carbon and the marine economy associated with the port, river, off shore renewables, hydrogen resources, specifically for decentralised low carbon energy, transport and resource efficiency.

Work is currently on-going to further develop Halton projects in consultation with partners. This will include identifying match funding and where appropriate delivery partners. The projects identified under this theme for consultation are listed below:-

Project 1: Heat Networks – decentralised energy network East Runcorn

Project 2: Retrofit – development of a domestic and industrial energy efficiency programme

Project 3: Hydrogen Fuel Network – an infrastructure project that is part of a wider plan to develop Ultra Low Carbon transport capability in the City Region

Project 4: Green Networks – helping businesses to take up micro technologies/renewable technologies